

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. A lancet device comprising:

3 a) a housing, said housing including an at least partially
4 open interior;

5 b) a cocking seat defined in said housing;

6 c) a lancet moveably disposed at least partially within said
7 open interior and including a piercing tip;

8 d) a biasing assembly engaging said lancet;

9 e) said lancet including an engagement element;

10 f) said cocking seat structured to engage said lancet at said
11 engagement element and retain said lancet against a force
12 of said biasing assembly;

13 g) a release element structured to at least partially
14 disengage said engagement element from said cocking seat
15 such that said potential energy of said biasing assembly
16 moves said lancet relative to said cocking seat and drives
17 said piercing tip of said lancet at least temporarily into
18 a piercing orientation; and

19 h) said engagement element including a single use pivot
20 structured to render said engagement element inoperative to
21 retain said lancet on said cocking seat after said release
22 element disengages said engagement element from said
23 cocking seat.

24 2. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said cocking
25 seat is stationary relative to said housing.

- 1 3. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said cocking
2 seat is structured to move said lancet into releasing
3 engagement with said release element.
- 4 4. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said release
5 element is structured to be exteriorily actuated so as to
6 disengage said engagement element from said cocking seat.
- 7 5. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said single
8 use pivot is structured to be deformed upon said release
9 element disengaging said lancet from said cocking seat so
10 as to prevent repositioning of said lancet in engaged, pre-
11 fired relation with said cocking seat.
- 12 6. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said single
13 use pivot is defined by a breakable hinge structured to
14 break upon said engagement element being disengaged from
15 said cocking seat by said release element, thereby
16 preventing re-use thereof.
- 17 7. A lancet device as recited in claim 6 wherein said
18 breakable hinge is defined by a reduced thickness section
19 of said engagement element.
- 20 8. A lancet device as recited in claim 1 wherein said cocking
21 seat comprises a ledge defined in said housing.